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Patent
42530-6500

REMARKS

The Office Action indicated the subject matter of Claims 15, 19 and 20-23 were allowable if rewritten in independent form. Additionally, Claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 16, 18 and 24 would be allowable if rewritten to address 35 U.S.C. §112 issues.

The only prior art cited was *Jacobs* (U.S. Patent No. 3,902,511) and more particularly, a teaching shown in Figures 1 and 4 where a portion of storage space in hopper 60 was sacrificed, in one embodiment, to provide a horizontal shelf 64 to create a well 68 to provide a parallel arrangement of the coins for alignment with the disk plate. The shelf had a spring to urge it into a "normal position" while permitting some resilient movement "for breaking up jams and to work the disk shaped members into alignment." See Column 4, Lines 42-62.

Rather than increasing and decreasing storage space, the shelf taught as an option by *Jacobs* to reduce the storage space in favor of creating a well in an effort to align the coins or disk members.

Our claims have been amended to address the §112 issues and not for the purpose of distinguishing over any prior art.

Claim 1 has further been amended to incorporate the indicated allowable subject matter of Claim 21 and accordingly, it is believed that Claims 1-3, 20 and 23 are now allowable.

Claim 4 has been amended to address the asserted 35 U.S.C. §112 issues and accordingly, Claims 4 and 5 are believed allowable.

Claim 6 has been amended to incorporate the indicated allowable subject matter of Claim 8. It is believed that Claims 7, 9, 10, 11 and 12 are now allowable.

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Claim 13 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of Claim 15, and it is believed that Claims 13, 14, 16, 17, 18 and 19 are now allowable.

Claim 24 has been amended to address 35 U.S.C. §112 issues and it is believed allowable.

Newly drafted Claim 25 represents the allowed subject matter of Claim 22.

In view of the presentation of the allowed subject matter, it is believed that the case is now in condition for allowance and early notification of the same is requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone interview will help further the prosecution of the case, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the listed phone number.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the USPTO at 571-273-8300 on September 21, 2006.

Very truly yours,

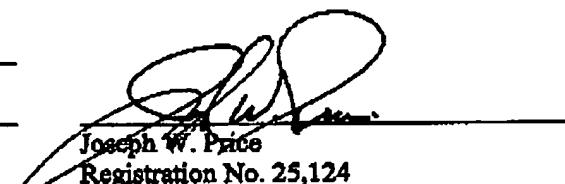
SNELL & WILMER L.L.P.

By: Sharon Farnus

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Signature

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